Failure of Labour Courts in Implementing various Labour Laws

3538. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a majority of the industries in Delhi are not paying minimum wages to their workers and the labour courts had totally failed in their duty of implementing various labour laws; and

(b) if so, the details and the steps proposed to be taken to see that various labour laws are strictly implemented by the industrialists?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) As per information received from the Government of Delhi, majority of industries in Delhi are paying minimum wages. Though from time to time a few complaints regarding non-payment of minimum wages by the employers are also received.

(b) During the year 1996, 7194 complaints regarding non/less payment of minimum wages were received by the Government of Delhi. In 1187 cases, the employers rectified the shortcomings and an amount of Rs. 48,36,495/- was got paid to the workers. The prosecutions were launched against 429 defaulting managements for violation of various provisions of the Minimum Wages Act. The enforcement machinery in' order to secure effective implementation of Minimum Wages Act makes regular inspection of the establishments covered under the Act and takes necessary action whenever any violation of the Act comes

New Initiatives to Control Child Labour in Beedi Sector

3539. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had taken new initiatives during last six months to control child labour in beedi sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps proposed to maintain this momentum; and

(d) whether any financial relief is proposed to be given to child labour in the beedi sector?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d) 76 National labour projects sanctioned during 1995-96 for the rehabilitation of children working in hazardous occupations including beedi industry, continue to be implemented. A majority activity undertaken under the child labour projects is the establishment of special schools to provide non-formal education, vocational training, supplementary nutrition and stipend etc. to children withdrawn from employment.

The Supreme Court of India in their judgement dated 10.12.96 has also given certain directions regarding the manner in which the children working in the hazardous occupations, including beedi industry, are to be withdrawn from work and rehabilitated. Detailed guidelines have been sent to the State Governments for giving effect to the directions of the Supreme Court. The issue was also discussed in the State Labour Ministers' Conference held in January, 1997. One major activity being taken up by all the State Governments at present is the conduct of survey of working children which is expected to be completed by 10th June, 1997.

Census report paints a dismal picture on Employment situation

3540. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the computed, tabulated and processed data on Census report by the Registrar General of India which had concluded the country-wide